

**Council on Postsecondary Education**  
**March 25, 2002**

## **Executive Summary**

### **1. Are more Kentuckians ready for postsecondary education?**

There are no action items under this question.

The P-16 Council continues to be very active. At its March 5 meeting, it reviewed a number of statewide activities and heard from Helen Mountjoy, chair of the Kentucky Board of Education, and Charles Whitehead, chair of the council. Both emphasized the importance of the P-16 agenda to their respective organizations. Kim Townley, executive director of the Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development and a P-16 Council member, reported on KIDS NOW initiatives to improve pre-natal and early childhood development. The staffs of the Kentucky Department of Education, the Education Professional Standards Board, and the council reported on programs to improve teacher education, guidance counseling, and school leadership. Sheila Byrd, director of the American Diploma Project, gave an overview of this project's efforts to establish high school graduation standards that can be used by employers and postsecondary education institutions for hiring, admissions,

and placement decisions. Kentucky is one of five states participating in this project. Julie Scoskie, director of the Jefferson County adult education programs, and others explained how adult education resources are being used to keep students in school who are at risk of dropping out. Finally, the P-16 Council passed a resolution commending Shirley Menendez for her dedicated service.